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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 09/199,655 | 11/25/1998 | RICHARD A. MATHIES | 104464-0002 | 3941 |

21125 7590 06/09/2003

NUTTER MCCLENNEN & FISH LLP
WORLD TRADE CENTER WEST
155 SEAPORT BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MA 02210-2604

[REDACTED] EXAMINER

BEX, PATRICIA K

[REDACTED] ART UNIT [REDACTED] PAPER NUMBER

1743

DATE MAILED: 06/09/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
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APPLICATION NUMBER

FILING DATE

FIRST NAMED APPLICANT

ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE

DATE MAILED:

NOTICE OF IMPROPER REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)

The request for continued examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 filed on 11/19/03 is improper for reason(s) indicated below:

- 1. Continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to an application for a design patent. Applicant may wish to consider filing a continuing application under 37 CFR 1.53(b) or a CPA under 37 CFR 1.53(d).
- 2. Continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to an application that was filed before June 8, 1995. Applicant may wish to consider filing a continuing application under 37 CFR 1.53(b) or a CPA under 37 CFR 1.53(d).
- 3. Continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to an application in which the Office has not mailed at least one of an Office action under 35 U.S.C. 132 or a notice of allowance under 35 U.S.C. 151.
- 4. The request was not filed before payment of the issue fee, and no petition under 37 CFR 1.313 was granted. If this application has not yet issued as a patent, applicant may wish to consider filing either a petition under 37 CFR 1.313 to withdraw this application from issue, or a continuing application under 37 CFR 1.53(b).
- 5. The request was not filed before abandonment of the application. The application was abandoned, or proceedings terminated on _____. Applicant may wish to consider filing a petition under 37 CFR 1.137 to revive this abandoned application.
- 6. The request was not accompanied by the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) as required by 37 CFR 1.114. Since the application is not under appeal, the time period set forth in the Office action or notice of allowance continues to run from the mailing date of that action or notice.
- 7. The request was not accompanied by a submission as required by 37 CFR 1.114. Since the application is not under appeal, the time period set forth in the Office action or notice of allowance continues to run from the mailing date of that action or notice.

A copy of this notice MUST be returned with any reply.

Direct the reply and any questions about this notice to:

Christie Haiker

Examining Group _____

1200

(703) 30_____8-6568